



RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP 2800

PATENT

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September 16, 2002

Ayesha S. Wilks

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Vishnu K. Agarwal

Attorney Docket No. : 501082.02 (98-0616.01)

Serial No. : 09/652,994

Group Art Unit : 2815

Filed : August 31, 2000

Examiner : Jesse A. Fenty

Title : DEVICE AND METHOD FOR PROTECTING AGAINST OXIDATION OF A
CONDUCTIVE LAYER IN SAID DEVICE

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Sir:

Please amend the above-captioned patent application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Still other gases include diborane (B_2H_6); phosphine (PH_3); and carbon-silicon compounds such as methylsilane (CH_3SiH_3) and hexamethyldisilane ($(CH_3)_3Si-Si(CH_3)_3$); and hexamethyldisilazane (HMDS). Additional alternate embodiments of the current invention use hydrazine (N_2H_4), monomethylhydrazine, carbon tetrafluoride (CF_4), CHF_3 , HCl , and boron trichloride (BCl_3), which are also useful in passivating dielectrics, as addressed in copending

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